## COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES



FIRE DEPARTMENT

1320 NORTH EASTERN AVENUE LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90063-3294

(323) 881-2401

P. MICHAEL FREEMAN FIRE CHIEF FORESTER & FIRE WARDEN

**December 18, 2007** 

The Honorable Board of Supervisors County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

**Dear Supervisors:** 

APPROVE AN INCREASE TO THE SPENDING AUTHORITY FOR THE CONTRACT AIR PROGRAM AND APPROVE THE ATTACHED APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT TO RECOGNIZE REVENUE IN THE FIRE DISTRICT'S OPERATIONS BUDGET UNIT AND TRANSFER FUNDING FROM THE FIRE DISTRICT'S DESIGNATION FOR **BUDGET UNCERTAINTIES** (ALL DISTRICTS) (4 VOTES)

## IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR HONORABLE BOARD, ACTING AS THE **GOVERNING BODY OF THE CONSOLIDATED FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT:**

- 1. Approve an increase in spending authority for the Fire District's Contract Air Program, which includes leases for the Erickson Air-Crane Helitanker and the two CL-415 SuperScoopers, from \$6 million to \$9.5 million, to extend the deployment of these fire suppression aircraft.
- 2. Approve the attached Appropriation Adjustment to recognize \$2.2 million in State and Federal revenue in the Fire District's Operations Budget Unit and to transfer \$2.0 million from the Fire District's Designation for Budget Uncertainties to fund the contract aircraft lease extensions.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors December 18, 2007 Page 2

#### PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

We are requesting your Board's approval for an increase in the current spending authority for our Contract Air Program from \$6 million to \$9.5 million to provide for anticipated expenditures in extending the Helitanker and SuperScooper lease agreements.

As we informed your Honorable Board on November 14, 2007, the Fire District extended the contract aircraft leases for the Erickson Air-Crane Helitanker and the two CL-415 SuperScoopers through December 31, 2007, due to the continuing dry wildland fuel and weather conditions. As was seen with the recent fires, these resources are an integral part of the Fire District's firefighting efforts.

Based on the current dry wildland fuel and weather conditions, the District plans to extend the aircraft leases for an additional 60 days from December 31, 2007. As a result of this extension and in anticipation of additional fuel and flight hour usage through March 1, 2008, we require an increase of \$3.5 million in spending authority and an appropriation adjustment for \$4.2 million.

Although we anticipate on extending the leases, we will continue to monitor the fuel and weather conditions, and will keep your Board apprised of the possibility of releasing these aircraft prior to March 1, 2008.

## Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the recommended actions is consistent with the County's Strategic Plan Goal #1, Service Excellence.

#### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The current Board approved spending authority for the Fire District's Contract Aircraft Program is \$6 million. Based on the recent fires' flight usage, we anticipate that the total costs for the lease extension through March 1, 2008, including daily stand-by, flight hour and fuel costs, will be approximately \$9.5 million. Therefore, the current spending authority needs to be increased by \$3.5 million.

In addition, the Fire District's 2007-08 Budget includes \$5.3 million for the Contract Air Program. With current projected costs of \$9.5 million, we require an appropriation increase of \$4.2 million. With your Board's approval of the attached appropriation adjustment, recognizing the potential State and Federal revenue from the CAL Fire, United States Forest Service and FEMA for our response to the recent fires, and transferring funds from the Fire District's Designation for Budget Uncertainties, the Fire District will have sufficient appropriation to cover the anticipated cost increases for both lease extensions. There is no impact on net County cost.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors December 18, 2007 Page 3

## FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

The current spending authority of \$6 million for the Fire District's Contract Air Program, which includes contract aircraft leases for the Erickson Air-Crane Helitanker and the two CL-415 SuperScoopers, was approved by your Board on July 10, 2007. Approval of the recommended increase in spending authority will allow the Fire District to expend a total of \$9.5 million, for both lease agreements combined, as needed.

The existing SuperScooper Service Agreement is for a five-year term and was renewed by your Board on November 15, 2005. The lease is renewed annually on an as-needed basis, with provisions to extend or terminate the lease with fifteen (15) days written notice. The existing lease term for the dedicated Helitanker can also be amended based on the fire weather conditions and/or fire activity upon five (5) days written notice.

## **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

Approval of the recommended actions will enable the Fire District to continue our efforts to provide fire suppression services to residents of Los Angeles County.

## CONCLUSION

Upon approval by your Board, please instruct the Executive Officer to return adopted copies of this letter to the following offices:

- Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County Executive Office
   1320 N. Eastern Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90063
- Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County Materials Management Division
   5801 S. Eastern Avenue, Suite 100
   Commerce, CA 90040
   Attn: James Ealey, Division Chief
- Consolidated Fire Protection District of Los Angeles County Financial Management Division 5801 S. Eastern Avenue, Suite 130 Commerce, CA 90040 Attn: Helen Jo. Division Chief

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Internal Services Department
 Purchasing Division
 1100N. Eastern Avenue, Room 102
 Los Angeles, CA 90063
 Attn: Joe Sandoval, Division Manager

Respectfully submitted

P. MICHAEL FREEMA

PMF:HEJ:tb

Attachment

c: Chief Executive Officer County Counsel Internal Services Department

#### COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

# REQUEST FOR APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT REPTS. 390-08

DEPARTMENT OF

December 3,

Kg 2007

AUDITOR-CONTROLLER.

THE FOLLOWING APPROPRIATION ADJUSTMENT IS DEEMED NECESSARY BY THIS DEPARTMENT. WILL YOU PLEASE REPORT AS TO ACCOUNTING AND AVAILABLE BALANCES AND FORWARD TO THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER FOR HIS RECOMMENDATION OF ACTION. ADJUSTMENT REQUESTED AND REASONS THEREFOR

Summary Total:

Source	ទ:
\$	4,200,000

Uses:

4,200,000

The Appropriation Adjustment is necessary to fund the extension of the Helitanker and SuperScooper lease agreements.

Theresa Barrera, Assistant Chief, RMD

CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

REFERRED TO THE CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER FOR-ACTION APPROVED AS REQUESTED RECOMMENDATION APPROVED (AS REVISED) BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AUDITOR-CONTROLLER BY 2007 DEPUTY COUNTY CLERK

#### See attachment

4-Vote Fiscal Year 2007-08

#### **SOURCES:**

Fire Department
Operations
Federal - Other
DA1-FR-90-9001-40100-40215
\$ 700,000

Fire Department
Operations
State -Other
DA1-FR-88-8831-40100-40215
\$ 1,500,000

Fire Department
Financing Elements
Designation for Budget Uncertainties
DA1-FR-3047
\$ 2,000,000

#### USES:

Fire Department
Operations
Services & Supplies
DA1-FR-2000-40100-40215
\$ 4,200,000